

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02098 231551Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13

AID-05 OPR-02 MCT-01 /093 W

-----059875 231555Z /40

O 231548Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4385

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2098

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PORG, AOU, CD

SUBJ: INTERNAL SECURITY: REBELS ATTACK GOVERNMENT FORCES IN
NORTH

REF: NDJAMENA 1995

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD EMBASSY THAT HE WAS CALLED IN TO
SEE PRESIDENT MALLOUM EVENING JUNE 22. MALLOUM HIGHLY CONCERNED
REGARDING SITUATION CHADIAN GARISON IN OUNIANGA KEBIR (NORTH
CENTRAL REGION) WHICH UNDER ATTACK BY REBELS USING HEAVY EQUIPMENT
(MORTARS, VEHICLES, ETC.) MALLOUM HAS ASKED FRENCH TO INTERVENE
WITH LIBYAN PRESIDENT QUADHAFI TO SEEK RELIEF REBEL PRESSURE.
FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS REPORTED REQUEST TO PARIS, BUT CONSIDERS
THAT IT LIKELY QUADHAFI HAS LITTLE INFLUENCE ON TACTICS REBEL BANDS
IN AREA. OUNIANGA KEBIR, ACCORDING FRENCH AMBASSADOR, HAS
TWO QUOTE SECTIONS END QUOTE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES, I.E.,
ABOUT 100 CHADIAN MILITARY.

2. MORNING OF JUNE 23 FRENCH DCM SAID THAT FRENCH
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AMBASSADOR URGENTLY CALLED TO PRESIDENCY AGAIN. FRENCH DCM
SAID THAT REBELS ATTACKING BARDAI AND ZOUAR AS WELL AS OUNIANGA
KEBIR, AND THAT PRESIDENT MALLOUM REQUESTING NOT ONLY FRENCH
DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS WITH QUADHAFI, BUT DIRECT MILITARY SUPPORT,
SAYING THAT IF FRANCE WILLING SUPPLY ZAIRE, WHY NOT CHAD.

3. COMMENT: ATTACKS BY REBEL LEADER GOUKOUNI ON CHADIAN

BASES IN NORTH NOT PARTICULARLY SURPRISING, BUT TIMING IS, IN
VIEW OAU MEETING LIBREVILLE, WHICH FORUM CHADIANS MAY BE
EXPECTED TO UTILIZE DENOUNCE LIBYAN SUPPORTED AGGRESSION.
WHILE IT MAY BE THAT QADHAFI SIMPLY DISCOUNTS AFRICAN OPINION,
IT MAY ALSO BE THAT GOUKOUNI ACTING ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE, PERHAPS
EVEN CHOOSING OCCASION TO DEMONSTRATE INDEPENDENCE OF ACTION.
MAJOR QUESTION ARISES ABOUT INTENTIONS HISSEN HABRE LED REBEL
FACTIONS IN EASTERN CHAD. WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES SCRAMBLING
REINFORCE GARISONS IN FAR NORTH, IT WOULD SEEM EXCELLENT
OPPORTUNITY FOR REBEL STRIKES IN EASTERN CHAD, AND, INDEED,
THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT GOUKOUNI AND HABRE HAVE COORDINATED
PLANS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR, INCIDENTALLY, DISCOUNTS COMPLETELY
EARLIER REPORTS THAT LIBYAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM
AOUZOU AREA NORTH OF BARDAI. BRADFORD

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